

1635
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Bill
3-29-01



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln. Serial No.: 09/373,272

Group Art Unit: 1635

Filing Date: August 12, 1999

Examiner: Epps, J.

Applicant(s): Austin-Phillips et al.

Attorney Docket No.: 09820.114

Title: **TRANSGENIC PLANTS AS ALTERNATIVE SOURCE OF
LIGNOCELLULOSIC-DEGRADING ENZYMES**

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 CFR §1.111

BOX: NON-FEE AMENDMENT
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

To the Commissioner:

Responsive to the Office Action dated December 20, 2000, the time period for response thereto being set to expire March 19, 2001, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration in view of the following amendment and accompanying remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1-15 and 23-25 without prejudice on the merits to further prosecution of these claims in one or more continuing applications.

Please amend Claims 16, 21, and 26, as follows:

SUB B17
A1

16. (AMENDED) [The] A genetically recombinant [plant of Claim 15] tobacco or alfalfa plant, which is stably transformed to contain and express a gene sequence which encodes a cellulase-degrading enzyme selected from the group consisting of *T. fusca* cellulase E2, *T. fusca* cellulase E3, *T. [ressei] reesei* CBH I, and *A. cellulolyticus* endoglucanase E1[, and combinations thereof].

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